

## Introduced by Senator Bowen

February 26, 1999

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An act to add Chapter 9.5 (commencing with Section 2860) to Part 2 of Division 1 of the Public Utilities Code, relating to the Internet.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1066, as introduced, Bowen. The Internet.

Under existing law, the Public Utilities Commission is vested with regulatory authority over the public utilities, including telephone corporations. Existing law sets forth legislative findings and declarations regarding telecommunications policies for California.

This bill would make legislative findings and declarations regarding the use of the Internet, as defined.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 9.5 (commencing with Section  
2 2860) is added to Part 2 of Division 1 of the Public Utilities  
3 Code, to read:

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## CHAPTER 9.5. THE INTERNET

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7 2860. (a) For the purpose of this chapter, "the  
8 Internet" means the global information system that is  
9 logically linked together by a globally unique address



1 space based on the Internet Protocol (IP), or its  
2 subsequent extensions; and is able to support  
3 communications using the Transmission Control  
4 Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP) suite, or its  
5 subsequent extensions, or other IP-compatible protocols;  
6 and provides, uses, or makes accessible, either publicly or  
7 privately, high-level services layered on the  
8 communications and related infrastructure described in  
9 this subdivision.

10 (b) The Legislature finds and declares all of the  
11 following:

12 (1) The Internet is a new form of communication that  
13 provides greatly expanded opportunities for interaction,  
14 education, commerce, and networking.

15 (2) While the use of the Internet is growing rapidly,  
16 growth will be constrained by limitations on the speed  
17 with which the Internet can transmit information, the  
18 availability of appropriate computer equipment to  
19 businesses, individuals, and institutions, knowledge of the  
20 hardware and software necessary to use the Internet, and  
21 an awareness of the benefits of the Internet.

22 (3) Given the benefits of the Internet, it is appropriate  
23 for the state to encourage the use of the Internet by the  
24 people, businesses, and institutions of the state.

